

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 01488 290935Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-15 /083 W  
-----122803 291055Z /16

R 290853Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9302  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION NATO  
AMCONSUL BELFAST  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1488

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY, OECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, EI  
SUBJECT: IRISH LABOR PARTY LEADER BOWS OUT

1. IN THE WAKE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CRUSHING DEFEAT IN THE  
IRISH GENERAL ELECTION, LABOR PARTY LEADER BRENDAN CORISH  
HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL RESIGN FROM THE PARTY LEADERSHIP,  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1. CORISH HAS BEEN THE SECOND-IN-COMMAND OF  
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THE GOVERNMENT COALITION FOR THE LAST 4 YEARS. THE NEW  
LABOR LEADER WILL PROBABLY BE THE GENIAL OUTGOING JUNIOR  
MINISTER FRANK MCCLUSKEY, WITH AN OUTSIDE CHANCE OF  
YOUNG AND ENERGETIC LABOR MINISTER MICHAEL O'LEARY.

2. AT 59, CORISH IS A VETERAN OF 32 YEARS IN THE IRISH  
PARLIAMENT AND 17 YEARS AS PARTY LEADER. HE HAS PRE-

SIDED OVER VARYING FORTUNES IN THIS SMALLEST OF IRELAND'S THREE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FRACTIOUS PARTY WITH MUCH TALENTED LEADERSHIP BUT BADLY SPLIT BY INFIGHTING AND IDEOLOGICAL BICKERING. IT RANGES FROM RATHER EFFETE INTELLECTUALS SUCH AS CONOR CRUISE-O'BIEEN TO HARD-BITTEN TRAINED UNIONISTS SUCH AS MICHAEL O'LEARY. CORISH HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MEDIATOR, A CALM AND UNFLAPABLE FATHER FIGURE WHO RODE ABOVE THE TIDE OF PARTY STRIFE.

3. THE IRISH LABOR PARTY HAS NEVER PARTICIPATED VERY MUCH IN INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AFFAIRS. THUS THE PASSING OF CORISH DOES NOT MAKE ANY INTERNATIONAL RIPPLE, AND ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN AROUND A LONG TIME IT DOES NOT EXACTLY MARK THE END OF AN EPOCH IN IRISH DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. CORISH HAS BEEN A RESPECTED IRISH LEADER BUT ONE CANNOT REMEMBER MANY POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING HIS LEADERSHIP AND DURING HIS 3 TOURS AS CABINET MINISTER IN IRISH GOVERNMENT. PERHAPS THE BEST THAT CAN BE SAID IS THAT HE KEPT A MOST UNMANAGABLE LITTLE PARTY FROM BLOWING ITSELF APART AND THAT HE LEAVES THAT PARTY, DESPITE THE RECENT ELECTORAL DEFEAT, IN REASONABLY GOOD CONDITION AND THE PARTY SHOULD RESUME ITS ROLE AS A BALANCE OF POWER IN IRISH POLITICS IN FUTURE ELECTIONS. RENDAHL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR, PARTY LEADERS, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IRISH LABOR PARTY LEADER BOWS OUT  
**TAGS:** PINT, EI, (CORISH, BRENDAN)  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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